

## Message Text

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ACTION SWF-01

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ROME FOR FODAG

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UN, BG

SUBJ: WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE: BANGLADESH DELEGATION

REF: A. STATE 237804 B. STATE 239058 C. DACCA 4988 D. STATE 240600

1. EMBOFF DISCUSSED NOVEMBER 2 US VIEWS ON WFC DRAFT RESOLUTIONS, DECLARATION ELIMINATES HUNGER AND MALNUTRITION, AND FOLLOW-UP MECHANISMS WITH TWO MEMBERS BANGLADESH DELEGATION, RAHMAN, JT. SECRETARY, AGRICULTURE AND HAQUE, JT. SECRETARY, FOOD. EMBOFF LEFT COPIES AIDE MEMOIRE ON US VIEWS BASED ON REFTELS A AND B FOR INFORMATION BENGALDEE DELEGATION.

2. BANGLADESH DELEGATION, IN ORDER OF SENIORITY, WILL COMPRISE:

A. MD. ABDUS SAMAD, MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, LEADER OF DELEGATION;

B. A.K.M. AHSAN, MEMBER (AGRICULTURE), PLANNING COMMISSION, DEPUTY LEADER;

C. A. M. SANAUL HUQ, AMBASSADOR TO BELGIUM AND TO EEC;

D. SALAHUDDIN AHMED, CHARGE D'AFFAIRES, ROME AND PERMDEL TO FAO, SECRETARY TO DELEGATION;

E. ABUL AHSAN, DIRECTOR GENERAL, MULTILATERAL ECONOMIC AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION AFFAIRS, MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

F. A. F. M. LUTFUR RAHMAN KHAN, JT. SECRETARY, AGRICULTURE MINISTRY;

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G. AT. T. M. SHAMSUL HAQUE, JT. SECRETARY, FOOD AND CIVIL

SUPPLIES MINISTRY; AND

H. MAHBOOB ALAM, FIRST SECRETARY, ROME. (NOTE. ABUL AHSAN, NOW IN MIDEAST, MAY BE ASKED TO ACCOMPANY PRIME MINISTER ON VISIT SEVERAL ARAB COUNTRIES AND HENCE DROPPED FROM DELEGATION.)

3. ABDUS SAMAD SERVED AS FOREIGN MINISTER FROM INDEPENDENCE (DECEMBER, 1971) TO MARCH 1973, WHEN HE BECAME AGRICULTURE MINISTER. LONG A POLITICAL ACTIVIST, HE WAS JAILED BY THE PAKISTAN GOVERNMENT FROM 1958 TO 1968. LEFTIST ORIENTED, HE HAD FAVORED CLOSE TIES WITH INDIA AND THE USSR. OUTSPOKEN IN HIS CRITICISM OF CAPITALISM AND US POLICY DURING THE 1971 INDEPENDENCE STRUGGLE AGAINST PAKISTAN, HE HAS MODERATED HIS ANTI-US STATEMENTS SINCE US RECOGNITION IN APRIL 1972.

4. A. K. M. AHSAN LED HIS COUNTRY'S DELEGATION TO BANGLADESH AID GROUP MEETING, OCTOBER 24-25 IN PARIS, AND IS APPARENTLY CANDIDATE FOR FAO POSITION (REFTELS C AND D).

5. BDG WHICH TAKES PRIDE IN ITS "NONALIGNED" FOREIGN POLICY AND MEMBERSHIP IN NONALIGNED CONFERENCE AND GROUP 77 HAS INVARIABLY FOLLOWED AND SUPPORTED THIRD WORLD POSITIONS IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS. WE DO NOT ANTICIPATE THA BDG WOULD TAKE THE INITIATIVE ON ANY ISSUES BUT WOULD USE FAO FORUM TO CALL ATTENTION TO ITS OWN ECONOMIC PLIGHT AS IT HAS BEEN DOING AT UNGA.

6. ACCORDING RAHMAN AND HAQUE, BANGLADESH DELEGATION WILL BE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN PROPOSED FOOD SECURITY COUNCIL AND FOOD BANK, WHICH IDEAS, THEY SAID, HAD BEEN "MOOTED BY BANGLADESH REP" AT BIENNIAL FAO CONFERENCE. THEY THOUGHT DELEGATION WOULD FORM VIEWS ON INSTITUTIONAL ISSUE OF CREATION NEW FOOD SECURITY COUNCIL VS. ENLARGING RESPONSIBILITIES OF FAO COUNCIL ONLY AFTER CONSULTATIONS WITH OTHER DELEGATIONS AT ROME. ALSO, ACCORDING RAHMAN AND HAQUE, BANGLADESH DEFINITELY INTERESTED IN CREATION NEW UN FUND.

7. EMBOFF DREW PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO US GENERAL POSITION ON CREATION NEW UN BODIES AND FUNDS PER PARA 2 REFTTEL B. BOSTER

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## Message Attributes

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